

# San Joaquin Valley Growth Response Study, Phase III - Advisory Committee Meeting #1



THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2003  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
CALTRANS DISTRICT 6 - MANCHESTER CENTER  
YOSEMITE ROOM, #145

## **Meeting Notes**

Attendee Sign-in Sheets attached.

9:00 Opening Remarks and Introductions ..... Georgiena Vivian

Ms. Vivian provided brief opening remarks focusing on why the Study was important within the Valley and within the Fresno-Clovis-SE Madera County Region.

9:15 Overview of the Purpose of the Study ..... Georgiena Vivian

Ms. Vivian explained why the Study was being conducted and focused her discussion on a set of tools or “toolbox” that could be applied by the local jurisdictions or others during review of General Plans and proposed developments. She emphasized that the tools were the main product of the Phase III Study, not the desire to identify major General Plan issues or improvements to the General Plans that may result from the modeling of such plans within the Region.

9:25 Review of Phase I and Phase II Study Outcomes ..... Georgiena Vivian & Jerry Walters

Ms. Vivian provided an overview of Phase I and II of the Study conducted by the Mineta Institute and the Rand Corporation over the past two years. She highlighted the major outcomes of both phases of the Study as referenced in the presentation.

9:40 Purpose of Phase III ..... Georgiena Vivian & Jerry Walters

- ◆ Review of Scope of Work
- ◆ Project Milestones

Ms. Vivian reviewed the proposed Scope of work for the project and Mr. Walters provided an overview of the Phase III Modeling process focusing on other studies that have been conducted within California.

10:00     *Break*

10:15     Discussion of Smart Growth Indicators

- ◆ Overview ..... Georgiena Vivian
- ◆ Group Discussion ..... Jerry Walters, Richard Lee, Phil Erickson & Teifion Rice-Evans

The Advisory Committee was asked to identify the indicators that were the most important. Discussion was initiated by John Wright, City of Clovis regarding what an indicator was and how it was to be applied in the modeling process. Project Team staff explained the indicator process using examples of the indicators would be applied. Carolina Jimenez-Hogg, Fresno County asked how the study and the modeling process would benefit the rural areas of the County since the study was focusing on the Fresno-Clovis-SE Madera County Region. Project Team staff indicated that the Geographic Information System (GIS) files and socioeconomic data applied for purposes of the study would be Countywide data sets. Given time and budget constraints, analysis of various land use scenarios within the Study Region could provide an indication of the effect of those scenarios on rural transportation systems.

Following another lengthy discussion of the indicator process, John Wright and others suggested that the Project Team take the presentation and the request for a prioritized list of indicators to the elected bodies (Fresno City Council, Fresno County Board of Supervisors, Clovis City Council, and the Madera County Board of Supervisors). The Team should first gain an understanding of the important indicators from the electeds and then come back to the Advisory Committee with the results for further discussion.

11:05     Review Recommended Smart Growth  
            Model Applications

- ◆ Overview of Selection Process ..... Richard Lee
- ◆ Model Demonstrations ..... Phil Erickson, Teifion Rice-Evans,  
   Richard Lee & Jerry Walters

Various members of the Project Team reviewed the process the Phase III Team applied to narrow the list of Smart Growth Modeling Tools identified from Phase II of the Study. This process was the first Subphase task to be undertaken by the Phase III Team. The process included further detailed evaluation of each of the model applications and development of review criteria focusing on special needs within the Study Region. The Team indicated that there are three modeling tools that will be required for purposes of Phase III including the Land Use Allocation Model, the Visualization/Indicator Model and the Transportation Model. Both the Land Use Allocation and Visualization Models will be developed by the Project Team from software (What if? And INDEX). The Transportation Model to be applied will focus on using the Council of Fresno County Governments (COFCG) Model and/or the Madera County Traffic Model.

11:35 Discussion of Available Data and Resources ..... Georgiena Vivian & Project Team

Based upon the need to meet with the elected officials before the Advisory Committee prioritizes model indicators, discussion regarding this item was limited.

11:40 Discussion of Similar Studies in the Region ..... Georgiena Vivian

Ms. Vivian provided an overview of other studies being conducted with the Valley including the Collaborative Regional Initiative (CRI), which has focused on the development of a single GIS dataset for the General Plans within the Region. The CRI has agreed to combine further effort with the Phase III Modeling process. The other study currently underway with the Valley is the Merced Smart Growth Study being conducted by the Merced Association of Governments. The study is just being initiated and further details were not available at the time of the Workshops.

11:55 Next Steps in the Phase III Process  
and Closing Remarks ..... Georgiena Vivian

Ms. Vivian identified the next few tasks to be undertaken by the Project Team including:

- ◆ Meeting with the elected officials to review the Study purpose and identify important indicators;
- ◆ Meeting with the Advisory Committee to review results of the meeting with the elected bodies;
- ◆ Completing the Phase III - Subphase 2 Scope of Work and budget and forward the information to Caltrans for review and comment;
- ◆ Initiating the collection of data and information to develop Subphase 2;
- ◆ Meeting with the Advisory Committee and the Stakeholders at a workshop series in Late Fall to review results of Subphase 2 and to begin the identification of various alternative scenarios that should be applied to the modeling process (Subphase 3).

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June 26, 2003



Please sign and indicate any changes or additions to your contact information.

Check In	Last Name	First Name	Title	Agency	Street Address	City, State Zip	Phone	Fax	Email
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bender-Ebert	Shari		Caltrans	1322 W. Olive Avenue	Fresno, CA 93728	(559) 488-4334	(559) 445-8173	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Birbaurn	Marc	Chief, Office of Transportation Planning	Caltrans	1322 W. Olive Avenue	Fresno, CA 93728	(559) 488-4250	(559) 488-4088	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Biner	Mike		Council of Fresno County Governments	2101 Tulare St. Ste. 619	Fresno, CA 93722	(559) 287-9006	(559) 233-9846	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Boren	Tony		Council of Fresno County Governments	2101 Tulare St. Ste. 619	Fresno, CA 93722	(559) 287-9006	(559) 233-9846	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brogan	Richard	LYNN GEMMILL, for Public Works & Planning Director	County of Fresno	2281 Tulare Street	Fresno, CA 93721	(559) 282-4078	(559) 282-4878	262-4191
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chan	Sue		Community Design + Architecture					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Downs	John		Fresno Area Express	2223 G Street	Fresno, CA 93706	(559) 621-1383	(559) 488-1065	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Erickson	Phil		Community Design + Architecture					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Frausto	Marta		Caltrans	1322 W. Olive Avenue	Fresno, CA 93728			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Garcupa	David	Director	Madera County Resource Management Agency, Planning Department	145 W. Yosemite Avenue	Madera, CA 93637	(559) 675-7821	(559) 675-7339	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Goodwin	Barbara	Executive Director	Council of Fresno County Governments	2100 Tulare St. Ste. 619	Fresno, CA 93721	(559) 287-9005	(559) 233-9845	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hallerman	Shonna	Department of Transit	City of Clovis	155 N. Sunnyside Avenue	Clovis, CA 93611	(559) 324-2760		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jimenez-Hogg	Carolee	Assistant CAO for Economic Development	County of Fresno	2250 2261 Tulare Street	Fresno, CA 93721	(559) 282-4188	(559) 422-8868	Chapman@fresno.ca.gov
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stewart Kurz	Stacey		VRPA Technologies, Inc.					

-Laudia took  
10:00 AM for

AC

✓	Lee	Richard		Fair & Peers Associates					
✓	Marquez	Paul Albert	Fresno Regional Planning Coordination	Caltrans	1352 W. Olive Avenue	Fresno, CA 93728	(559) 445-5987	(559) 488-4098	
✓	Mathis	Renee		City of Clovis					
	Moy	Ellen	President	Moy & Associates	7522 N. Sycamore Avenue	Fresno, CA 93711	(559) 435-1117	(559) 435-1117	
✓	O'Neal	Bruce		Land Use Associates					
✓	Rice-Evans	Teddon		Economic & Planning Systems					
	Ruiz	Jon	Public Works Director	City of Fresno	2800 Fresno Street	Fresno, CA 93721	(559) 821-8650	(559) 488-1045	
	Slater	Michael	Attorney's Office	City of Fresno			(559) 821-7538		
✓	Stack	Barbara	Program Director	Fresno Business Council	2327 Geary Blvd	Clovis 93612	292-1549	(559) 202-1540	
	Swearegin	Ashley	CEO, Fresno Area CRI	Fresno Area Collaborative Regional Initiative	c/o Central California Futures Institute at California State University, Fresno 5244 North Jackson Avenue, M/S KC 128	Fresno, California 93740	(559) 278-8460	(559) 278-8461	
✓	Taylor-Mahy	Patricia	Executive Director	Madera County Transportation Commission	1818 Howard Rd Ste. 8	Madera, CA 93637	(559) 675-0721	(559) 675-9328	phic@madetract.com
✓	Townsend	Robert E.	Road Commissioner	Madera County Road Department	201 W. Almond	Madera, CA 93637	(559) 675-7811	(559) 675-7831	
✓	Vivian	Georgiana	Vice President	VRPA Technologies, Inc.	4746 W. Jennifer, Ste. 103	Fresno, CA 93722	(559) 289-9287	(559) 438-4714	
✓	Walters	Jerry		Fair & Peers Associates					
	White	Steve	City Engineer	City of Clovis	1033 Fifth Street	Clovis, CA 93612	(559) 324-2356	(559) 324-2844	
✓	Winnig	Derek		Madera County Transportation Commission	1818 Howard Rd Ste. 8	Madera, CA 93637	(559) 675-0721	(559) 675-9328	derek@madetract.com
✓	Wright	John	Planning & Development Services Director	City of Clovis	1033 Fifth Street	Clovis, CA 93612	(559) 324-3243	(559) 324-2866	
	Yovino	Nick	Planning and Development Director	City of Fresno	2800 Fresno Street	Fresno, CA 93721	(559) 821-8003	(559) 488-1012	

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	Fresno Area Collaborative Regional Initiative	Institute at California State University, Fresno 5244 North Jackson Avenue MS/83740	Fresno, California 93740	(559) 278-8460	(559) 278-8461
<del>Petersen</del> Petersen					
Bellone	Renee	SIVUARD	Pho E. Gettyburg	93721	559
Gardwin	Barbara Ex Dir.	FRESNO CCG	2100 Tulare St #401 Fresno CA	93721	559
Dennis	John	FAX / COG	93723 G. ST	Fresno	621-1802
Hanno	Lyle	Plan. m/cr.	Cof/P.T.D. DEPT.	2400 Fresno	Fresno
Murch	Danell Planner	Coffman / P&D Dept.	Upoon Fresno	621-8036	271-1009
Smith	Brian	UKS	JRS	3445 W Shaw	Fresno
Wright John	Director PDs	Clans			
NORTHIS	Dora	At Appraisal and architect	clois,		
Annel Bruce	City of Fresno	City of Fresno	2223 O Street	Fresno	621-1446
Hagg	Lochle	Knight And	ferrero Co		